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United States Department of the Interior



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April 19, 1995

BIA.TC.7112

Gail C. Gineberg Regional Counsel U.S. EPA, Region 5 (C-3T) 77 W. Jackson Blvd. Chicago, II. 60604

Re: Request for Legal Opinion

Dear Gall:

Thank you for your letter of January 12, 1995, concerning the application of Ragen v. Uran, 510 U.S. ___, 127 L. Ed. 252 (1994), to the status of the reservation of the Mille Lace Band of Minnesota Chippewa. While we endeavor to respond as quickly as possible to requests for our input concerning any client-related Indian law matters, our Office's four lawyers must usually respond first to the administrative and judicial litigation for our three client agencies in eleven states.

We have reviewed the materials you provided. After careful consideration, we do not helieve that the opinion in <u>Magen</u> alters the analysis of Mark A. Anderson's February 28, 1991 letter nor its conclusion that the Mille Lacs Reservation boundaries encompass the territory described in the Treaty of 1855 and were not diminished by the Treaty of 1854 or the Melson Act.

Please do not hesitate to call me at 612-725-3540 with any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas C. Juacobs

For the Field Solicitor

co: Area Director, BIA/MAO
MBYC RAMAII, EPA, MBII Code CH-3T